



Focuses on Housing

Monthly Michigan State Housing Development Authority Housing News

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Blight Elimination to Take Place in Michigan's Cities of Promise

The Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) has committed to funding up to \$25 million over the next four years to assist in blight elimination in Michigan's eight Cities of Promise. The eight cities are Benton Harbor, Detroit, Flint, Hamtramck, Highland Park, Muskegon Heights, Pontiac and Saginaw.

The blight elimination program has several goals which will reduce unsafe neighborhood conditions and make neighborhoods more attractive. These goals include; improving neighborhood safety for children, substantially increasing the number of blighted residential structures demolished in each of the cities through strategic demolition activities, increasing income and skills of homeless persons in the cities, increasing the use of deconstruction (salvaging/recycling usable materials) in place of and/or in conjunction with demolition to remove unwanted structures and rebuild communities, increasing the use of holistic, market-based neighborhood revitalization plans tied to the neighborhoods where blight is being addressed with MSHDA funds

The Cities of Promise is an initiative of Governor Granholm's that aims to re-develop communities and reduce poverty in cities that are experiencing devastating conditions due to declining population, extreme poverty, loss of industry and jobs, crumbling infrastructure and blighted neighborhoods. The blight elimination program is the critical first step in these revitalization efforts across Michigan. Jobs created through this program will provide opportunities for training and employing homeless persons. For more information visit the Cities of Promise Web site at:

www.citiesofpromise.org

MSHDA Announces Michigan Main Street and Blueprints for Michigan's Downtowns Winners

MSHDA has announced the four communities chosen to take part in the coveted Cool Cities Michigan Main Street program and Cool Cities Blueprints for Michigan's Downtowns program. This year's designee for the Michigan Main Street award is the City of Scottville. The communities receiving the Blueprints for Downtowns award are the cities of Caro, Clio and Ypsilanti.

Through the Cool Cities Michigan Main Street program, Scottville will receive five years of intensive technical assistance through MSHDA, with a focus on revitalization strategies designed to attract new business investment and job creation to its central business district. The cities of Caro, Clio and Ypsilanti, through the Blueprints for Downtowns program, will receive a comprehensive, market-driven strategy toward developing an action-oriented downtown that will result in economic growth, job creation and private investments in their downtown communities.

MSHDA is a quasi-state agency that provides financial and technical assistance through public and private partnerships to create and preserve safe and decent affordable housing, engage in community economic development activities, and address homeless issues. MSHDA's loans and operating expenses are financed through the sale of tax-exempt and taxable bonds and notes to private investors, not from state tax revenues. For more information on MSHDA programs and initiatives, visit the Web site at www.michigan.gov/mshda.

MSHDA GRANTS

| <u>Recipient</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Local Contact Telephone #</u> |
|--|----------------------|---|
| CDBG COUNTY ALLOCATION GRANTS | | |
| Clare County | \$200,000 | (989) 539-2510 |
| Roscommon County | \$275,000 | (989) 275-8306 |
| CDBG TARGETED REVITALIZATION GRANTS | | |
| City of Hancock | \$243,900 | (906) 482-1121 |
| City of Reading | \$243,900 | (517) 283-2604 |
| City of Three Rivers | \$243,900 | (269) 273-1075 |
| City of Ludington | \$243,900 | (231) 845-6237 |
| City of Iron River | \$243,900 | (906) 774-2256 |
| HOME HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES GRANTS | | |
| City of Grand Haven | \$180,000 | (616) 935-3275 |
| Northern Homes Community Dev. Corp. (Boyne City) | \$150,000 | (231) 582-6244 |
| Human Development Commission (Caro) | \$300,000 | (989) 673-4121 |
| HOME TARGETED REVITALIZATION GRANTS | | |
| City of Holland | \$150,000 | (616) 355-3139 |
| Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance | \$400,000 | (313) 922-1435 |
| Human Development Commission (Caro) | \$175,000 | (989) 673-4121 |
| City of Lapeer | \$238,800 | (810) 667-2500 |

MSHDA'S JUNE PRODUCTION FIGURES

| <u>MSHDA Program</u> | <u>Number of Loans</u> | <u>Dollar Amount</u> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Homeownership | 220 | \$ 22,821,529 |
| Property Improvement Program (PIP) | 13 | \$ 125,954 |

JUST A REMINDER

We have a standing offer for any members of the media who would like to have MSHDA staff either appear on radio talk shows or television news broadcasts, or provide guest columns or articles for publications. Raising public awareness, for low- and moderate-income residents throughout the state, of MSHDA's many affordable housing options is always a well-received subject in any news medium, and we would welcome any opportunities you can provide.

MSHDA PUBLICATIONS

MSHDA Focuses on Housing is published monthly and is available on the MSHDA Web site, www.michigan.gov/mshda. Click on "about MSHDA" and go to *Publications*. To receive more information about any of the above information please go to the Web site at www.michigan.gov/mshda or contact the Communications office at 517-373-0011.

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